

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 213466
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

APPROVED BY S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

-----129756 071534Z /40

O 071517Z SEP 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 213466

NODIS

POSTS FOR AMBASSADOR-WH FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 14836 ACTION STATE SEP 7.

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 14836

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR SY US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SYRIAN TREATY LANGUAGE

REF: (A) STATE 206963, (B) CAIRO 14426

1. ASKED FAHMY TODAY IF HE HAD OPPORTUNITY RAISE WITH KHADDAM
DESIRABILITY OF PROVIDING US WITH SOME TREATY LANGUAGE. FAHMY
SIAD HE HAD DONE SO. SYRIANS WILL DO SO, BUT PROBABLY NOT IN
TREATY FORM. INSTEAD, THEY WILL PROBABLY PROVIDE LIST OF
"ITEMS" THAT SHOULD BE PART OF PEACE SETTLEMENT.

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2. FAHMY SAID SYRIANS MAY ALSO HAVE PERSUADED JORDANIANS NOT
TO PROVIDE TREATY LANGUAGE, BUT ONLY "ITEMS". HE HAD GAINED
THIS IMPRESSION FROM JORDANIAN REP AT JUST-CONCLUDED AL
FONMINS' SESSION. FAHMY CLAIMS THAT HE SOUGHT TO IMPRESS
UPON THE JORDANIAN DESIRABILITY OF PROVIDING TREATY LANGUAGE.
HE HAD POINTED OUT THAT JORDANIAN SITUATION IS DIFFERENT
FROM THAT OF SYRIA. JORDANIANS, UNLIKE SYRIANS, HAD REPLIED

TO JARRING PROPOSALS AND HAD ACCEPTED ROGERS PLAN. HOWEVER, JORDANIAN POSITION RE PALESTINIAN SETTLEMENT IS MORE DIFFICULT. AFTER RABAT, AND BECAUSE OF GENERAL ARAB POSITION THAT PLO REPRESENTS PALESTINIANS, JORDANIANS CAN HARDLY MAKE PROPOSALS HAVING TO DO WITH PALESTINIAN SOLUTION.

3. SYRIANS, FAHMY ASSERTED, ARE PLAYING A DOUBLE GAME. DESPITE ASAD'S POSITIVE COMMENTS IN VARIOUS PRESS INTERVIEWS, INCLUDING ENDORSING CONCEPT THAT ARAB LEAGUE COULD REPRESENT PALESTINIANS, KHADDAM HAD MADE IT CLEAR AT AL MEETING THAT SYRIANS REGARD THE SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT AS A FAILURE, THAT USG POSITION ON MOVING TOWARD A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IS "DETERIORATING", AND THAT THERE IS NOTHING NEW. PLO REPS TOLD EGYPTIANS THAT ASAD HAD MADE THESE SAME POINTS TO THEM. ASAD REPORTEDLY TOLD THEM THERE SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN USG POSITIONS RE GOLAN AND SINAI, BUT NO IMPROVEMENT ON PALESTINIAN ASPECT. ASAD HAD, IN FACT, GIVEN THE PLO THE FIVE PRINCIPLES WHICH THE SECRETARY HAD BROUGHT, CITING THESE AS EVIDENCE OF LACK OF FORWARD MOVEMENT ON PART OF USG ON THIS CRUCIAL ISSUE.

4. DEPT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO AMMAN AND DAMASCUS. EILTS UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

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